



COSTA
BAGLEY
LIM
HENNESSY
HANNA
ALMARA

MARVEL

2

YEARS AGO, A CHANCE ENCOUNTER LED TO DISGRACED REPORTER EDDIE BROCK BONDING WITH THE AGGRESSIVE ALIEN ORGANISM KNOWN AS A SYMBIOTE. UNITED BY THEIR SIMILAR NEED FOR JUSTICE IN THE FORM OF VENGEANCE, AND GIFTED WITH POWERS SIMILAR TO THOSE OF SPIDER-MAN (ALONG WITH UNIQUE ABILITIES), THE TWO FIGHT CRIME AS THE WICKED WEB-SLINGER VENOM. BUT BEFORE THERE WAS VENOM, THERE WAS...

VENOM

FIRST HOST



THE VENOM SYMBIOTE RECENTLY SPAWNED, AND, UNDER THE SUPERVISION OF LIZ ALLAN, ALCHEMAX HAS BEEN CHARGED WITH THE PROTECTION OF ITS ALIEN OFFSPRING UNTIL VENOM FEELS IT IS READY FOR THE OUTSIDE WORLD.

BUT LIZ HAS DESIGNS OF HER OWN FOR THE CREATURE, AND HAS ALREADY ALLOWED HER SCIENTISTS TO STUDY IT WITHOUT BROCK'S CONSENT, PROMPTING HIM AND HIS SYMBIOTE TO LASH OUT.

LEAVING THE ALCHEMAX HEADQUARTERS TO COOL DOWN, VENOM WAS AMBUSHED IN AN ALLEY BY A SKRULL WOMAN. ANOTHER MYSTERIOUS INTERLOPER – A KREE – STOOD AGAINST HER... BUT CLAIMED THE VENOM SYMBIOTE BELONGED TO HIM!

MIKE COSTA	MARK BAGLEY & RON LIM	ANDREW HENNESSY & SCOTT HANNA	DONO SÁNCHEZ-ALMARA	VC'S CLAYTON COWLES
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ASST. EDITOR	EDITOR	EXEC. EDITOR	EDITOR IN CHIEF	CHIEF CREATIVE OFFICER	PRESIDENT	EXEC. PRODUCER



...IT WAS
SCREAMING.

GOTTA HELP,
EDDIE, GOTTA
HELP!

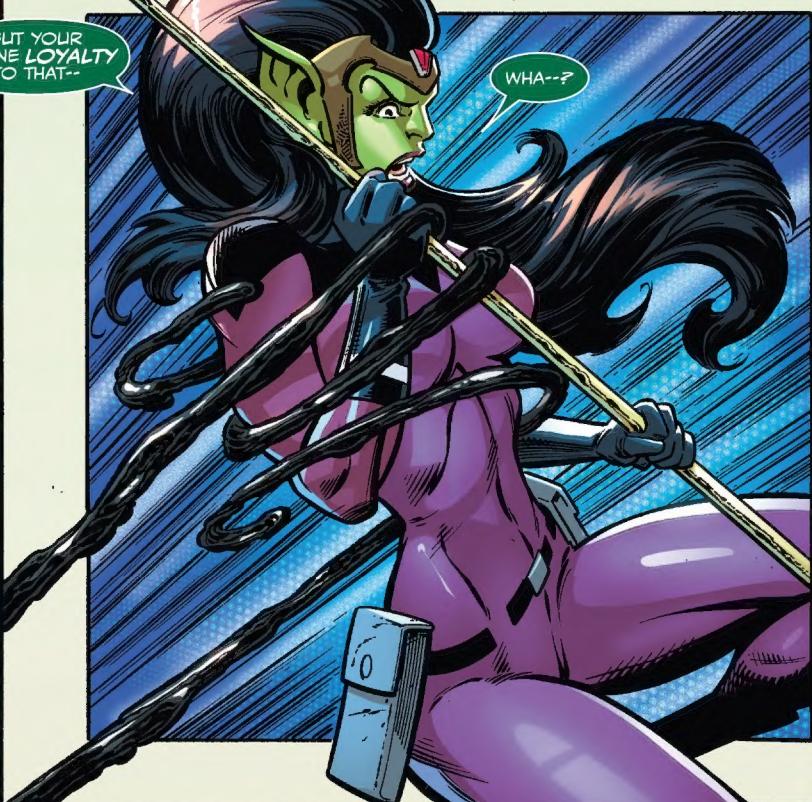




THE HALA YOU FOUGHT FOR IS GONE,
TEL-KAR, YOU WERE FOOLISH TO
COME HERE. YOU COULD HAVE
GOTTEN AWAY CLEAN.

BUT YOUR
INSANE LOYALTY
TO THAT--

WHA--?

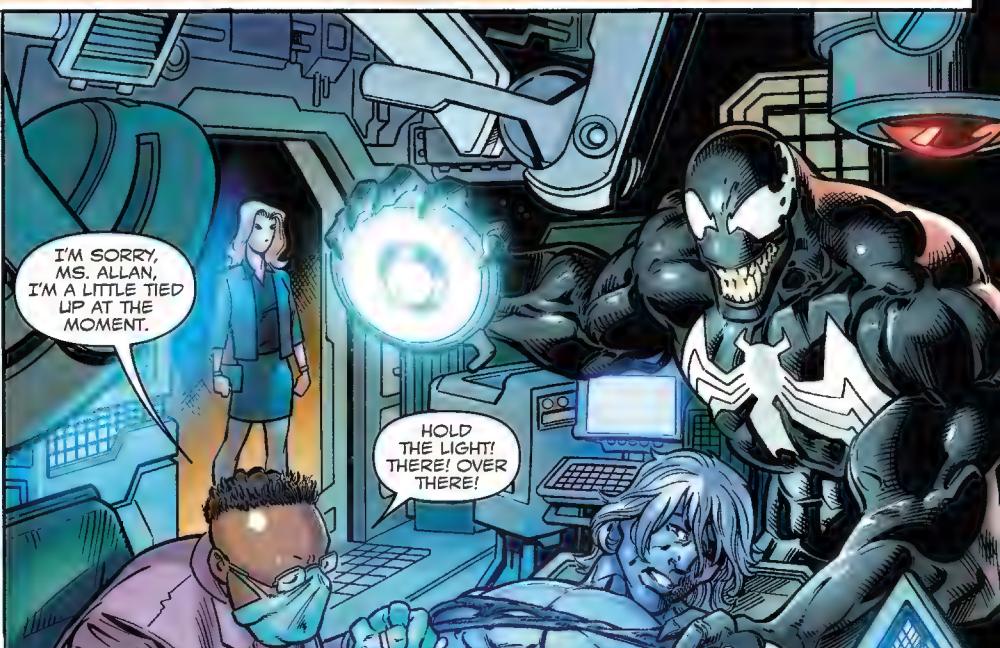












"THIS IS IT, BROCK. FOR REAL."







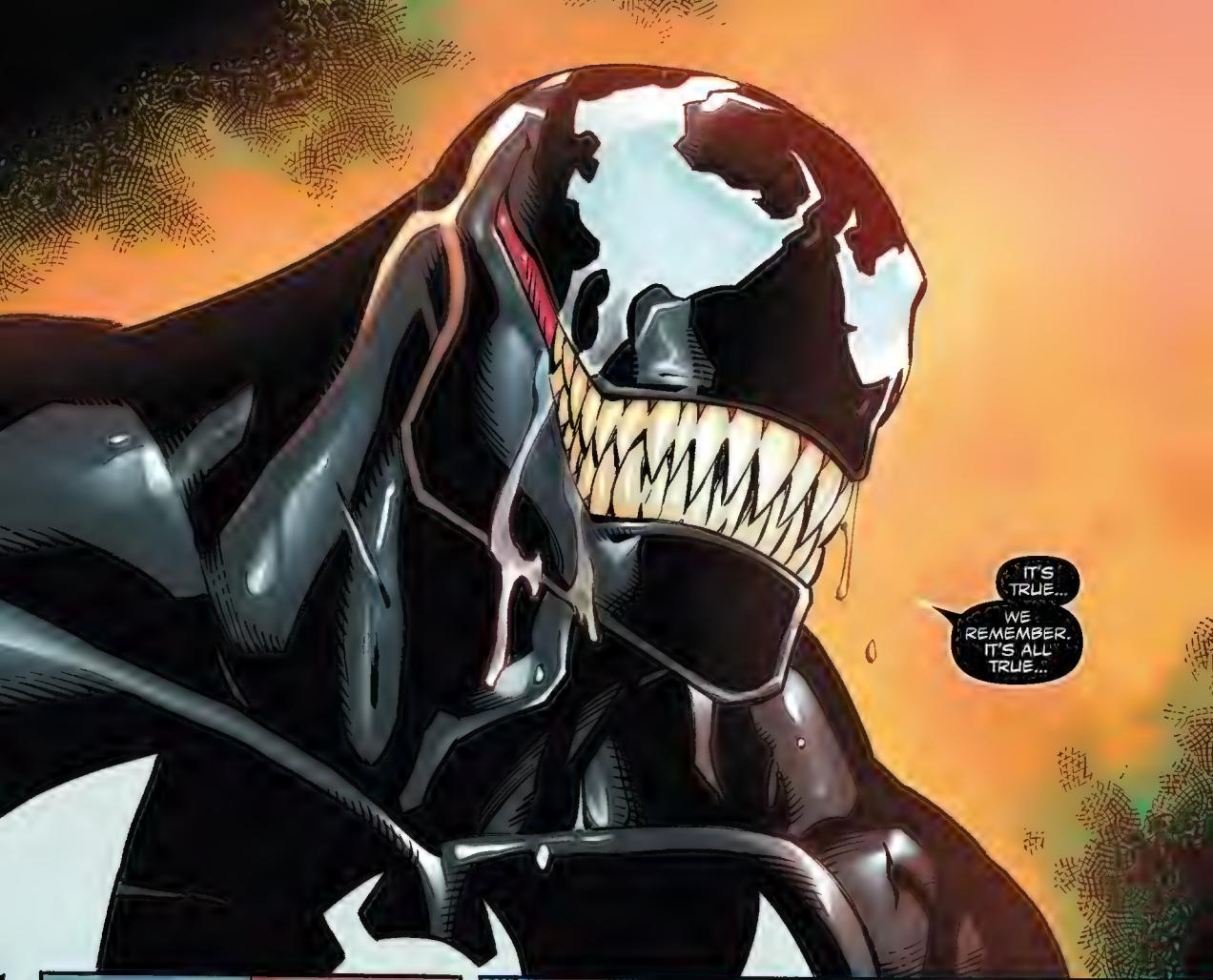
*AS SEEN IN VENOM: SPACEKNIGHT, BUT YOU ALREADY KNEW THAT! --DEV



"YOU NEED ONLY TO ALLOW
YOURSELF TO REMEMBER."

LIGGHHH...





I AM A
KREE WITHOUT COUNTRY
OR CAUSE. MY WAR IS OVER
AND MY PROSPECTS ARE DIRE. I
BELIEVE YOU HAVE BEEN A GOOD
STEWARD TO THIS SYMBIOTE, BUT
THERE IS STILL MUCH GOOD THE
SYMBIOTE AND I COULD DO
TOGETHER IN MY
GALAXY.



IF THAT
IS YOUR CHOICE...
I HONOR IT.

YOU
HAVE MY ENVY,
BROCK. YOU MUST
BE A GREAT
MAN.









DON'T GO--WE CAN TAKE HIM!

--UNLESS MY SYMBIOTE COMES WITH ME WILLINGLY.

NO CHOICE, EDDIE!

JUST GIVE US A SECOND! THERE MUST BE A--

CANNOT RISK HURTING THE LITTLE ONE.

WILL REMEMBER. WILL COME BACK, EDDIE.

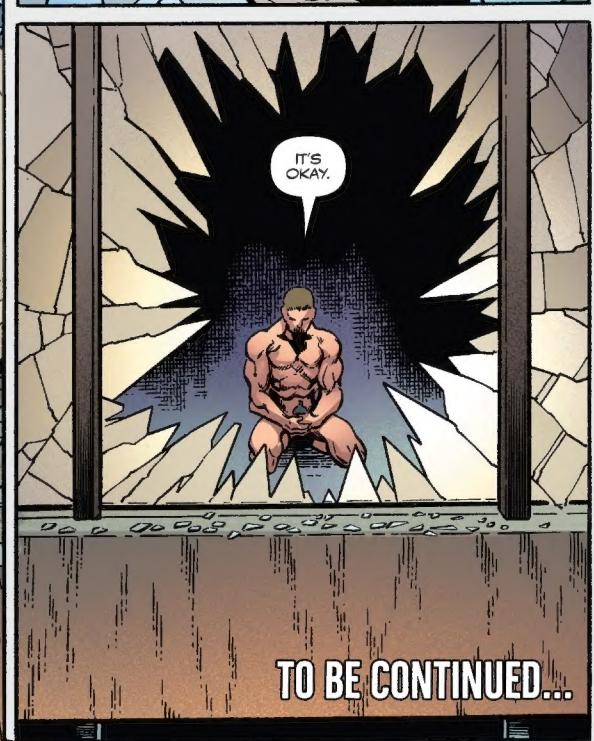
I DON'T UNDERSTAND WHAT YOU THINK IS GOING TO HAPPEN HERE. IT'LL NEVER HELP YOU.

THAT'S WHERE YOU'RE WRONG.

WHAT THE HELL IS...?

AH. GLORIOUS.

GLORIOUS.





Eddie's Clubhouse

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Hello, in here, out there, around the world and aboard all the ships at sea! And welcome to this--the second issue of VENOM: THE FIRST HOST!

This series has been in the works for a LONG time--just over a year at this point--and I am so happy that it's finally out there in the world and in your hands!

This story represents the culmination of scribe Mike Costa's work with the wicked web-slinger, and the idea of Venom's first host returning to the symbiote's life has been a story he's wanted to tell since his run began. Every character, every beat, every moment has been leading to this!

Of course, this ambitious of a story requires a deft hand at the drawing board, and, MAN, I am so glad that Mark Bagley has returned to the fold for this series.

After their work on the VENOM: LETHAL PROTECTOR "Blood in the Water" story during MARVEL LEGACY, and April's VENOM #164 and #165, it's impossible to deny that Mike and Mark have a special kind of chemistry! Of course, it helps that Mike's one of the best writers in comics today, and that Mark's one of the best to ever pick up a draftsman's pencil in the history of the biz!

And, of course, I can't pass up an opportunity to give a much-deserved shout-out to none other than Ron Lim, artist extraordinaire and Mark's frequent collaborator, including on one of the most beloved Venom stories of all time--the original LETHAL PROTECTOR!

The work Mark and Ron have done was foundational to the Venom mythos, and to have them both return to the character during the year of his 30th anniversary is not only a privilege as an editor, but one of the most exciting opportunities I've had as your Venomaniac in Chief!

Add inker Drew Hennessy and color artist Dono Sánchez-Almara to the mix, and the result is one of the most gorgeous-looking Venom books I've ever seen!

So if you're a fan of symbiotes, keep your eyes right here! We've got a host (hah!) of unexpected twists and turns coming your way, including one that involves that most recently birthed of symbiotes. Who will the offspring's host be?! What abilities will it have?! And will Eddie be able to wrestle Venom away from Tel-Kar's clutches before the Kree does irreparable damage to it?

Answers to those questions and more you didn't even know you had are coming, so stick with us--our next issue goes on sale IN ONE WEEK! While you're waiting, drop us a line at SPIDEYOFFICE@MARVEL.COM to let us know how we're doing! Be sure to mark it OKAY TO PRINT, and you just may see if right here in this very column!

Until then, stay sharp!
Devin

NEXT



#3



AN OROBOROS
RELEASE - DCP